The Franchise Question

53. * **MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI** (*Tiruvalla III*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they had received representations from the public or public bodies to the effect that final orders on the franchise question should be passed only after giving an opportunity to the public to express their views on the Franchise Report; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the action taken by them on the same?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government did not think it necessary to publish the report.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know from Government whether they have taken any action on the representation made by the people and whether they have published their proposals with regard to that?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government did not think it necessary to publish the report and invite public criticism. The representation was recorded.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know from Government the reasons which weighed with Government in not giving an opportunity to the public to be in the know of things?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): By taking into consideration all the circumstances Government thought that it was not necessary to publish the report.

Classification of roads for bus service.

54. * **MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI** (*Tiruvalla III*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there has been any classification of roads, according to the heavy and light bus traffic thereon, made by the P. W. D. or the Traffic Superintendent; and

(*b*) the date, nature and details of such classification, if any?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads Buildings and Irrigation*): (*a*) Yes, by the P. W. D.

(*b*) (1) Date 1-9-1930. (2) The classification is made on the basis of maximum weight that can be permitted on a road. (3) As regards the details of classification, the member is referred to page 20 of the P. W. D sheet of the Government Gazette dated 9-9-1930.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): Sir, before asking supplementary questions I wish to raise a point of order. In answer to part (*b*) it is stated "as regards the details of classification, the member is referred to page 20 of the P.W. D. sheet of the Government

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Gazette dated 9-9-1930 " Is it right on the part of the official member to refer another member to a document which he has not been supplied with?

PRESIDENT : The honourable member's question refers to the date, natur and details of such classification, if any. It is a course open to the head of the department to copy the P. W. D. sheet of the Government Gazette and to supply him with that. But as the honourable member is keenly interested on the subject, the official member knew that he would be in possession of all the information. So he referred him to the departmental sheet of the Gazette itself. Nowwhat is the point of order?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): Sir, is it in order for the official member to refer another member to a document that has not been supplied? I have no time to make any reference to that.

PRESIDENT : Order, order. Is it the honourable member's point that he cannot find the document at this time? Do you mean from that seat? Does the honourable member think that he cannot get this document sitting where he does, or that he has applied for it and did not get it? If that is so the matter is worth looking into.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : I point out that I am unable to ask any supplementary questions with regard to the details of classification.

May I know from the Government whether one and one and a half ton buses are declared as heavy or light motor vehicles under the Rules?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : Sir, the buses are grouped as one and a half, one, three-fourth, and half ton buses and accommodate 24, 20, 16 and 9 persons respectively. Usually the one and a half ton bus is styled as heavy.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): My question is whether, under the rules, the one and one and a half ton buses are declared heavy or light?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I cannot say that we have declared any particular bus as heavy. We have not made any definite statement. Usually we speak of the half ton buses as light and the one and a half ton buses as heavy.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know whether the Chief Engineer has in his letter, dated 13-5-1933 No. 750, permitted one ton bus plying from here in the Quilon-Alleppey road·

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : I believe it may be so. I am not in possession of the letter now.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know whether the Quilon-Alleppey road was declared fit for one and one and a half ton buses?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : I believe at one time special permission was granted limiting the number of passengers to 16.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know whether the permits of one and a half ton buses on the Quilon-Alleppey roads have been subsequently withdrawn.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : Yes.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know the reason for doing so ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : They were found too heavy for the road.

The Revenue Settlement Memorandum.

55. *MR. M. MAHOMED HANEEF (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any action on the Revenue Settlement Memorandum submitted by the Special Officer Mr. N. Nilakanta Pillai, the retired Division Peishkar ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The Revenue Settlement Memorandum submitted by Mr. N. Nilakanta Pillai is under the consideration of Government.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : May I know the date on which Mr. Nilakanta Pillai submitted his memorandum ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : In August 1934.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : May I know whether the Government are contemplating a reconsideration of the Memorandum in the near future ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It is under consideration.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : May I know whether Government have received any representation that the Settlement should be undertaken at once or within a short time ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : No, Sir.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) : May I know whether Government will take this matter very urgently ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I have stated already that it is now under consideration and Government have not decided whether it is to be treated as urgent or not.

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